

CATARACT CREEK DAM

Fact Sheet

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- ◆ Impoundment on Cataract Creek, from Mason Lake; tributary of N. Willow Cr.
- ◆ Located approximately 8 miles southwest of Harrison in Madison Co.
- ◆ Owned by DNRC & managed by SWPB
- ◆ Operated by Cataract Creek Water Users Association since 1959

- ◆ Project consists of:
 - ◆ Earthen Embankment Dam, 80 feet high, 775 feet long
 - ◆ Controlled, unlined open channel spillway with concrete drop structure
 - ◆ 30-inch, horseshoe-shaped 390 foot-long reinforced concrete outlet, with two 30-inch diameter gate valves in series.

- ◆ Original construction completed in 1959
- ◆ Reservoir stores 1,478 acre-feet at spillway crest
- ◆ Provides irrigation water for 16 farms and ranches
- ◆ The dam is a “high hazard” structure, which means that its failure could cause loss of life. Farms and ranches, roads, bridges, and utilities are located in the flood plain. The towns of Pony and Harrison are immediately downstream.

PROJECT DEFICIENCIES

- ◆ Existing spillway earthen channel is not capable of safely passing the design flood event.
- ◆ Excessive seepage in the right abutment may threaten structural integrity.

PROPOSED REHABILITATION

A two-phased rehabilitation process is planned. The first phase requires engineering analysis and alternative evaluation to determine the best course of action to address deficiencies. Funding for phase 1 was approved by the 2007 Legislature. The second phase includes the final design and construction.

The proposed rehabilitation would include:

- ◆ Construction of new spillway and channel that meets current standards.
- ◆ Installation of a new seepage collection and drain system.

Estimated Cost \$2,000,000

